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LETTER DATED 11 MAY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the English translation of four notes verbales dated 3 October 1998, 7 December 1998, 2 January 1999 and 2 February 1999 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran concerning violations of the territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the border areas with Afghanistan (see annexes).

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annexes were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD-HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex I

Note verbale dated 3 October 1998 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran and has the honour to state the following:

According to the reports of the Iranian border guard authorities, and in contravention of international norms and principles, the following violations have been committed against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

1. On 17 May 1998, the patrol unit of the Iranian sentry post Malvi in Torbat-e Jam came under fire with light weapons by Afghan border guards.

2. On 21 May 1998, the Iranian border guards captured some armed Afghan bandits who had infiltrated the Iranian territory and abducted three villagers from the villages around Mahmud-Abad. Evidence was seized from them indicating they had received weapons and ammunition from Tur Ghareh sentry post of Afghanistan in order to carry out mischief and abduction in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. On 19 July 1998, the Afghan military forces attacked the Halve sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Four personnel of the Iranian sentry post suffered injuries in this attack.

4. On 7 August 1998, Afghan border guards attacked the Iranian sentry posts of Ghalea Akbar and Pish Robat where an Iranian personnel was killed and another one wounded.

5. On 15 August 1998, a military plane flying from the direction of Afghanistan violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the area around the Iranian sentry posts of Malv and Khatai.

While expressing strong objection, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers such border violations by armed Afghan forces and bandits in violation of international norms and principles governing inter-State relations, and contrary to good-neighbourly relations, and believes that the continuation of such acts jeopardizes peace and security at the border of the two countries and expects that embassy to take appropriate measures, through possible means, to respect the territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While expressing concern about the situation that has been created and about the non-cooperation of the border guards of that country in maintaining peace and order in the common border, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its right to protect international borders and the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Annex II

Note verbale dated 7 December 1998 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran and, further to its note verbale dated 3 October 1998, has the honour to state the following:

According to the reports of the Iranian border guard authorities, the following violations against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been committed in contravention of international norms and principles:

1. On 19 July 1998, two Iranian border guard vehicles en route to Abrisham sentry post came under fire from the direction of Afghanistan.

2. On 19 July 1998, five cannon shells were launched from the direction of Afghanistan at the Iranian sentry post of Malv and injured four personnel of the post.

3. On 28 September 1998, an Afghan military plane violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Sarakhs area.

4. On 1 October 1998, a military plane flying from the direction of Afghanistan violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran at high altitude.

5. On 2 October 1998, four Mig and one Sokho warplanes, from the Shindid airbase of Afghanistan, violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While expressing strong objection, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers such border violations by armed Afghan forces and bandits in violation of international norms and principles governing inter-State relations, and contrary to good-neighbourly relations, and believes that the continuation of such acts jeopardizes peace and security at the border of the two countries and expects that embassy to take appropriate measures, through possible means, to respect the territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While expressing concern about the situation that has been created and about the non-cooperation of the border guards of that country in maintaining peace and order in the common border, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its right to protect international borders and the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Annex III

Note verbale dated 2 January 1999 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran and, further to its note verbale dated 7 December 1998, has the honour to state the following:

According to the reports of the Iranian border guard authorities, the following violations against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been committed in contravention of international norms and principles:

1. On 11 September 1998, several armed Afghans ambushed the Iranian patrol guards of Saleh Abad sentry post killing a commanding officer and wounding four personnel of the sentry post.

2. On 3 October 1998, the Afghan forces in the Dahaneh Shur sentry post of Afghanistan fired with light and semi-heavy weapons towards the Doli Jalal sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. On 6 October 1998, the Ibrahim Khani sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran came under fire with semi-heavy weapons from the Gol Aalam sentry post of Afghanistan.

4. On 8 October 1998, the armed Afghan forces in the Khatai, Gol Aalam, Dahaneh Shur, Ghalea Jun and Tutak sentry posts of Afghanistan fired with heavy and semi-heavy weapons towards the Iranian sentry posts, wounding an Iranian border guard.

5. On 24 October 1998, the armed Afghan forces fired 30 cannon shells towards the Iranian sentry posts of Northern Yousef Khan and Southern Yousef Khan.

6. On 26 October 1998, several armed Afghan bandits infiltrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran and clashed with patrol guards of the Chah Sorkh sentry post.

While expressing strong objection, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers such border violations by armed Afghan forces and bandits in violation of international norms and principles governing inter-State relations, and contrary to good-neighbourly relations, and believes that the continuation of such acts jeopardizes peace and security at the border of the two countries and expects that embassy to take appropriate measures, through possible means, to respect the territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While expressing concern about the situation that has been created and about the non-cooperation of the border guards of that country in maintaining peace and order in the common border, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its right to protect international borders and the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Annex IV

Note verbale dated 2 February 1999 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Tehran and, further to its note verbale dated 2 January 1999, has the honour to state the following:

According to the reports of the Iranian border guard authorities, the following violations against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been committed, in contravention of international norms and principles:

1. On 26 March 1998, two mortar shells were fired from the territory of Afghanistan towards the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2. On 10 June 1998, the Afghan border guards at Tahaneh Jadid sentry post fired, with semi-heavy weapons, towards the Tapeh Siah sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. On 4 July 1998, the Malv sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran came under fire from inside Afghanistan.

4. On 4 July 1998, the Afghan border guards fired towards the Iranian border guards of the Mohammad Khani sentry post.

5. On 30 July 1998, Iranian border guards clashed with two armed Afghans who infiltrated the Iranian territory. Meanwhile, the personnel of Shura sentry post of Afghanistan, in support of the intruders, took them back to the other side of the border.

6. On 5 August 1998, the Afghan forces in the Kondeh Sukhte sentry post fired, with heavy weapons, towards Kondeh Sukhte sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

7. On 7 August 1998, the Iranian border guards clashed with several armed Afghans who infiltrated the Iranian territory around the border pillars 72 and 73. As a result of this clash two Iranian border guards were wounded.

While expressing strong objection, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers such border violations by armed Afghan forces and bandits in violation of international norms and principles governing inter-State relations, and contrary to good-neighbourly relations, and believes that the continuation of such acts jeopardizes peace and security at the border of the two countries and expects that embassy to take appropriate measures, through possible means, to respect the territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While expressing concern about the situation that has been created and about the non-cooperation of the border guards of that country in maintaining peace and order in the common border, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its right to protect international borders and the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran.